



Kent Donald Burrell

January 11, 1957 - June 30, 2023

On June 30, our beloved, husband, father, grampers, and brother Kent Donald Burrell (66 yr), returned to his heavenly home after a battle with congestive heart failure. Kent was born on January 11, 1957, to Kathryn and Wilfred Burrell. As a child, Kent was creative and fascinated by science and new technology. He was a talented artist, designer, director, and actor. He participated in all the plays during his years at Cottonwood High School and is remembered for his role as Tevia in *Fiddler on the Roof*. He later went on to perform at Theater 138, Lagoon Opera House, Walk-ons Theater, Sundance Theater, and Hale Center Theatre. Kent eventually received his Bachelors in Theater Education from the University of Utah with a Masters in Curriculum from the University of Phoenix.

Kent served a two-year mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in New York City (Spanish speaking) from 1976-1978. On his mission, he grew to appreciate a variety of different Spanish cultures and a love for the people. His testimony grew and strengthened during these years and he had many sacred experiences which solidified his testimony of Jesus Christ and his church. Kent served in many callings including ward and stake clerk, choir director, and organist. Kent was a talented organist and choir director and blessed many with his enthusiasm and professionalism.

Kent taught theatre and stage crew for 31 years. He inspired students at Alta, West Jordan, Copper Hills and Jordan High Schools. Kent received many awards on the regional and state levels, including Shakespearian competitions. Throughout his 31 years of teaching, Kent inspired many students and was an instrument of good in their lives. He encouraged his students to channel their passion and enthusiasm into their performances and to strive for excellence. Kent received several awards as an educator including teacher of the month and teacher of the year on multiple occasions.

It was while teaching that Kent became acquainted with Teresa Andersen. He married his best friend and sweetheart on January 12, 1985, in the Salt Lake Temple. Kent was a kind, loving, nurturing, and supportive husband who encouraged Teresa in all her endeavors. Their devotion to one another has been an inspiration to their family and

others. During the last 38 years, they have been able to withstand many challenges and trials because of their love and dedication to each other, their family, and their God. Together they have raised six amazing and courageous children. Kent loves his children and tried to develop personal relationships with them by taking them on turn-outs and having Daddy talk time. When the children were sick or injured, it was their Daddy they turned to because of his gentle and nurturing nature. He made many ER and Instacare visits. Kent also delights in his 5 grandchildren and is very proud of the way they are growing and developing their talents.

Kent faced many challenges and trials during his life. One of his greatest challenges was his battle with his addictions. Kent developed an appreciation for the addiction recovery program, the power of the Book of Mormon, and a great love for his Savior and his plan of mercy. Kent loved church history and his pioneer ancestors. He gained strength and courage through their examples and carried a quote in his wallet of Francis Webster, a member of the Martin Handcart. It said, "Everyone of us came through with the absolute knowledge that God lives for we became acquainted with Him in our extremities!" Kent is now reunited with his parents (Kathryn Hardy and Wilfred Burrell), brothers (Craig and Charlie Burrell), and in-laws (Lynda Stephens and William Andersen). We have no doubt that there is a happy reunion taking place.

Kent is survived by his sisters Kaylene (Byron) Peterson and Connie (Richard) Sawatzki and sister-in-law Gail (Craig) Burrell; His sweetheart Teresa Burrell and Children: Caleb (Megan), Emma, Gideon, Ephraim, Joshua (Shelby) and Jessica Burrell, and his 5 grandchildren: Elli, Sophia, Hayzlee. Ruby and Peter, We have no doubt that in the spirit world, he will continue to uphold our family motto "I'll lift thee and thee lift me and we'll ascend together."

Flower may be sent to Serenity Funeral Home
13863 S 2700 W, Bluffdale, UT, 84065

Please join us in honoring Kent for a funeral service on July 8, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. at the Cottonwood 8th Ward building located at 6301 S. 2300 E., Holladay, UT 84121. A viewing will be held prior to the funeral on July 8, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. -11:15 a.m. and on Friday, July 7, 2023, from 6:30 p.m. -8:00 p.m.

The family would like to thank Wayne Heady and the Cottonwood 8th ward for their unconditional love and continual support to Kent over the years and South Davis Hospice especially Michelle, Jordi, Linda, and Carly for their tender care.

“Please share memories and condolences at www.serenityfhs.com

Please follow the link for the funeral

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88279517967?pwd=N0pia0ZKb3Y2aFhIRzRCZjRxa250QT09>

Cemetery Details

Memorial Mountain View Cemetery

3115 Bengal Blvd
Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121

Previous Events

Viewing

JUL 7. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

Cottonwood 8th Ward
6301 South 2300 East
Holladay, UT 84121

Viewing #2

JUL 8. 10:00 AM - 11:15 AM (MT)

Cottonwood 8th Ward
6301 South 2300 East
Holladay, UT 84121

Funeral Service

JUL 8. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (MT)

Cottonwood 8th Ward
6301 South 2300 East
Holladay, UT 84121

Graveside Service

JUL 8. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (MT)

Memorial Mountain View Cemetery
3115 Bengal Blvd
Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121

Tribute Wall



“ *Kent Donald Burrell*

October 05, 2023 at 07:49 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Full Funeral*



Serenity Funeral Home - August 02, 2023 at 03:48 PM



“ *There are people you come across in life who seem to be a perfect fit to guide you during that time. Kent Burrell was an amazing teacher who gave me just the right amount of responsibility and trust in high school to help me refine who I was becoming as a human and as a theatre artist. He showed faith in me that made me proud of my skills and made me want to become even better to live up to his expectations of me. He had such an influence on me that even when he left for Jordan High School our senior year Maxwell Healy and I would often skip out on school and go crash one of his classes just to hang out and talk about what was going on for us. He never once seemed bugged or put out by our need for our mentor. He was an incredible man and I am grateful our paths crossed at just the right time. I wish his family all the love and support during this time as I am sure so many of his students do. Until we meet again Bubba!*

Steven Workman - July 09, 2023 at 08:16 PM



“ *we are sorry to hear of Kent's passing. our condolences to you and your family. carole and Ron Satterwhite*

Carole Satterwhite - July 08, 2023 at 01:33 PM



“ *Bubba got me through so much as a teenager. His mentorship and care for his students was legendary. He taught me so much and most of it not about theater. His humor and ability to provide a safe space were invaluable traits that will continue to inspire and influence for years and possibly lifetimes to come. I'm so sorry for the loss and for the sadness the Burrell family is surely experiencing.*

Min Pike - July 05, 2023 at 09:36 PM

JP

“ Mr. Burrell was such a unique spirit an exceptional teacher. When I met him I just moved to Utah and was the new kid. He always created an inspirational and inclusive environment where everyone was able to express themselves and feel accepted as a family. He made me feel at home, gave us a space to truly be our our quirky theatrical selves, and made every experience unforgettable. Some of the best memories I have are thanks to Mr. Burrell, from working with him in our shows like “The Music Man”, “The Moustrap”, “Once on this Island”, and winning state with our one act play “This is a Test”, all the fun and laughable memories in stage tech and working with him in drama club to make each year exceptional for everyone. But most memorable about Bubba was his passion for theatre, enthusiasm for teaching, and patience with giving us wisdom that I have used to this day as a man and father. I have shared my memories of him with my daughters that have made us smile each time and know he inspired a generation of men and women who will do the same and keep his memory alive forever. In addition to his a devotion as a husband and father, may his legacy and the lives he touched continue to be in our hearts, always.

Justin Panico - July 05, 2023 at 02:25 PM

DR

“ Kent was an amazing teacher. The students loved him. He recognized that the key to teaching was to love the students. May God bless his family in the days ahead.

Dennis Randall - July 05, 2023 at 11:27 AM

SL

“ Ohhh my heart. Bubba, had a huge impact on my high school years. He taught my drama 1, speech 1, and drama 3 classes. His piercing eyes spoke volumes in classes. He was inspiring and knew exactly how to connect with us, his crazy students. I will never forget his performance in our spring “Musical Review” his voice was powerful and the emotion brought everyone to their feet with tears. Thank you for helping me find my voice Bubba! You are loved and missed.

stacie lake - July 05, 2023 at 09:58 AM

KP

“ Words can't express how much his guidance and mentorship meant to me in high school. As a kid with a disability he always treated me as a normal kid and not to let my disability get in the way of acting. He helped me gain confidence with who I was inside and out. His teaching greatly influenced my life for the better.

Kim Price - July 05, 2023 at 01:01 AM

CB

“ I remember being in an assembly and a group was performing a dance but the wrong song was playing. They yelled up at the booth, "It's on side B!" And Mr. Burrell came over the speakers in a booming slow voice saying, "It is on side B!" Me and my friends all said in unison, "god?" He was one of the biggest influences in my life. I love him and he will be missed.

Chez Bennion - July 04, 2023 at 09:51 PM

MK

“ Kent inspired me a lot during high school. He was a great teacher and even better mentor. He taught me many life lessons. He pushed me through theater class and helped me find my voice when I felt life was too intimidating. A quote from Lord Of The Rings

I wish it need not have happened in my time," said Frodo.

"So do I," said Gandalf, "and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.

J.R.R. Tolkien

Mr Burrell guided and taught me to find that time and how to make the most of it. You will be missed. I hope you find peace and many new adventures.

Matthew Kalm - July 04, 2023 at 06:11 PM



“ Mr. Kent Burrell was a huge influence in my life. I grew up short, and scrawny, and got teased a lot. I had a few close friends, but never really fit in, anywhere. When I was in Highschool, I took a drama class, and joined a play my Jr year. Mr. Burrell saw something in me, and encouraged me to run for Drama Club presidency, the next year. I applied for the Vice President position, because I didn't have a lot of confidence. After all applications were turned in, there wasn't a lot of interest, in fact we barely had enough people to fill out the Presidency. Mr. Burrell took the few that ran, and based on "votes and his opinion who would be best for each role", Mr. Burrell assigned the Presidency. Once again, he saw something in me, and assigned me the role of Drama Club President. The next year was so much fun, and I met so many amazing people! I never would have done so, or had confidence to break out of my shell, if it weren't for Kent Burrell. He was an amazing teacher, who looked at the potential of his students, even if they didn't see it themselves. I really do think a lot of the best parts of who I am, today, is owed in large part to Mr. Burrell.

Joseph Gourley - July 04, 2023 at 12:21 AM

NV

Kent and I attended Cottonwood together, and I have many fond memories of watching his growth in theatre. A Thespian ever! God bless his family, and may Kent's love follow you through dark nights.

Nancy McGraw Veit - July 07, 2023 at 07:08 PM

S

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Serenity Funeral Home - July 03, 2023 at 10:00 PM

WT

“ I first met him at Alta High School. Probably around 1982. It was his first teaching gig, he didn't have a beard and drove a Subaru Brat. He was never actually my teacher but we worked together on several plays. He later wrote me a reference letter when I joined the Navy. A very good hearted man.

Wendell Thayne - July 03, 2023 at 08:35 PM



Wendell, thank you. I have happy memories of doing plays with you! Thank you for your kind words. Teresa

Teresa Burrell - July 04, 2023 at 12:15 AM

CF

“ My sincere condolences over your loss. Some of my favorite memories in high school we're from playing Horace in Hello Dolly. Mr. Burrell wanted to make sure my makeup was done just right. So he did it himself. You could tell he loved what he did, and he loved teaching it to kids who wanted to learn. I also enjoyed running into him at the gym, and I was surprised that he remembered me. His family will be in my family's prayers

Caleb Fullmer - July 03, 2023 at 08:35 PM



“ My deepest sympathies to the Burrell family at this time. “Bubba Burrell” was such an incredible teacher and helped me get out of my shell at Jordan High School. His mentoring and kindness has guided me through my life. Thank you for sharing for husband, and father with all us high school kids.

Jake Yates - July 03, 2023 at 04:45 PM



“ *Teresa and family - our sincerest condolences in the passing of Kent. Your family has been an example to so many of the meaning of unconditional love and support. We pray for your hearts during this time and bow in gratitude for the blessing and knowledge that families are forever.*

*With our love,
Ryan & Kathy Crockett*

Kathy Tapia Crockett - July 03, 2023 at 04:04 PM



Thank you so much Kathy

Teresa Burrell - July 04, 2023 at 12:18 AM



“ *Mr. Burrell's class was my very favorite my senior year. Theater 3 was an absolute riot in 1993. His classroom was a safe space for us theater nerds. He always saw our potential and was such an incredible mentor. I was a student director on *The Foreigner*, and I will never forget how he completely cracked up during our food rehearsal when Todd yelled, "My Van! My Vegetables!" One of my favorite drama memories ever!*

Candie Thomas - July 03, 2023 at 11:58 AM



Love that memory. Thanks for sharing

Teresa Burrell - July 04, 2023 at 12:20 AM



“ *Kent was the perfect primary chorister for my boys with his toolbox. They adored him and looked forward to Primary in those early years because of him. He will be missed dearly. All our love to our sweet Burrell family.*

Joy Prince - July 03, 2023 at 10:41 AM